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*United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management*

*Las Cruces District Office
Caballo Resource Area*

May 1990

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

ANNUAL UPDATE 1987-1990



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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
LAS CRUCES DISTRICT OFFICE
1800 Marquess St.
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005

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Dear Reader:

This document is the first annual update for the White Sands Resource Management Plan (RMP). The document provides an update of Fiscal Years 1987, 1988, and 1989 accomplishments and contains the actions planned for Fiscal Year 1990 to implement the RMP.

Of particular interest in Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989 is the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) involvement with implementing the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986. The Act gives BLM responsibility to manage the withdrawn land on McGregor Range according to the provisions set forth in Public Law 99-606.

A Plan Amendment for McGregor Range was completed in FY 1989. The document addressed to what degree public use of the resources will be allowed and the intensity of BLM resource management on McGregor Range. The Proposed Plan/Final EIS for McGregor Range has been completed. A Record of Decision was signed in February 1990.

Prior to 1989, the White Sands Resource Area Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) has been published each year as a separate document to update the progress in the rangeland management program. In the future, the RPS will be made a part of this RMP update document.

A number of events have occurred in the last few years that have affected the programs in the Resource Area and we believe it timely to update the name of the Resource Area. The White Sands Resource Area is now the "Caballo Resource Area."

Your continued interest and involvement in the specific management actions to implement the RMP is encouraged. We look forward to continued public cooperation and participation as the RMP is implemented in the coming years.

Sincerely,



P. Robert Alexander
Area Manager
Caballo Resource Area

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RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN ANNUAL UPDATE

INTRODUCTION

This is the first annual White Sands Resource Management Plan (RMP) update. The purpose of this document is to update the public on implementation of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) White Sands RMP. The land use plan for the Caballo Resource Area was completed in October 1986. Because implementation of the RMP will continue over a number of years, an RMP update document will be issued each year. The annual document will present information concerning the progress made in the previous fiscal year, and the action planned for the current fiscal year to implement the RMP. This document presents the accomplishments for Fiscal Years (FY) 1987, 1988, and 1989 and the planned actions for FY 1990.

The implementation actions (completed and planned) contained in this update are presented by resource programs in the same sequence as the RMP (October 1986). The majority of the resource program implementation actions are presented in simple list format with a short description. A brief narrative (PROGRAM NOTES) is presented for the resource programs which require more detailed discussion and provides information on routine actions.

A list of the Environmental Assessments (EAs) which were completed in FY 1987, 1988, and 1989 is also provided (see Appendix 1).

In addition, the planned actions listed address actions that have been identified in the RMP for implementation in FY 1990. Project-specific developments (e.g., rangeland improvements and sign placements) are not listed as planned actions.

All scheduled planned actions are projections based on current priorities and the budget for the fiscal year. If priorities and budget allocations shift during the fiscal year, the schedule for the planned actions may also change.

The passage of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act in 1986 resulted in the need for a plan amendment to the White Sands RMP. The Act withdrew 608,385 acres of public land on McGregor Range in Otero County. The plan amendment addressed to what degree public use of the resources will be allowed and the intensity of BLM resource management on McGregor Range. The Proposed Plan/Final EIS has been completed, and the Record of Decision signed in February 1990.

CHANGING THE RMP

The White Sands RMP is the guiding document for management of the public land resources in the Caballo Resource Area for the next 10 to 20 years. There are three techniques for changing the plan: plan maintenance, amendment, and revision. Plan maintenance includes correcting errors in the text, updating data bases, and correcting mapping errors. No decisions are changed through the maintenance process. Plan amendments are major changes which affect one or more of the RMP decisions. Plan revision involves a complete rewrite of the RMP.

Beginning with this year's update document, a description of the amendments and maintenance actions completed each fiscal year will be outlined.

For FY 1987, 1988, and 1989, the following maintenance actions were completed:

- updated acreage table
- changed two minor text errors
- changed the McGregor Range boundary on maps
- defined acreage figures for cultural resource protection

The acreage table mentioned above is Table 1 in the White Sands RMP. Appendix 2 contains the updated table to allow for tracking changes in

both surface and subsurface acreage in the Caballo Resource Area. Two plan amendments for the White Sands RMP have been completed-Arizona Interconnection Project Plan Amendment and the McGregor Range Plan

Amendment. An amendment to consider designation of the Guadalupe Ranch/Salt Flats as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) may be initiated in 1990. Other ACEC areas that are nominated will be considered.

RESOURCE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

LANDS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Disposed of 70 acres for two landfills in Sierra County. A 30-acre parcel was sold to the City of Truth or Consequences and a 40-acre parcel was sold to Sierra County.
- Exchanged 1,080.42 acres of public land with The Nature Conservancy for land in the Mimbres Resource Area as part of the Cox exchange.
- Removed land use restriction on an old Air Force bombing range in Otero County. Restrictions still remain on 8,160 acres for surface use only.

PLANNED ACTIONS

- Approximately 240 acres of public land will be considered for exchange in FY 1990.

PROGRAM NOTES

There was special emphasis on hazardous waste and landfills. The Caballo Resource Area had seven landfills operating in Otero and Sierra counties; all of these landfills have been closed and are awaiting a preliminary assessment or environmental audit before final compliance, rehabilitation, and acceptance of the relinquishment of the lease. A Notice of Realty Action will be issued on a closed 30-acre landfill site at Truth or Consequences as soon as the preliminary assessment for hazardous waste is completed.

A total of 32 rights-of-way (ROWs) were processed in FY 1988 and 1989. Some of these projects were for multimillion dollar projects

resulting from area growth and high technology. Work is continuing on the unauthorized use in the area. In the town of Placitas, cadastral surveys have been completed for the houses and church that are being offered for sale. Applications for other sales have also been received; e.g., houses and a church in the old mining community of Lake Valley. Two landfill sites under the Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act were relinquished because they were never used as landfills.

Seven withdrawal cases have been reviewed for the Bureau of Reclamation on the Elephant Butte Project. A mineral report has been completed. Withdrawal review is planned for White Sands Missile Range, Fort Bliss, and Holloman Air Force Base in 1990.

Application review has started on a R&PP application for a 1,164-acre park and two rifle ranges within the Caballo Resource Area.

The Arizona Interconnection Project was in progress during FY 1988 and FY 1989. The ROW grant was issued on September 16, 1988. A total of 88 miles of the 345 KV line was installed on the public land in Sierra County.

MINERALS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Reviewed and updated oil and gas and geothermal stipulations.
- Reviewed stipulations on No Surface Occupancy (NSO) for R&PP leases.
- Designated three new community pits in Otero County. One pit near La Luz was established in FY 1988. Access for the three community pits were also identified.

PLANNED ACTIONS

- Review oil and gas and geothermal stipulations.
- Establish mineral material pit in Orogrande area.

PROGRAM NOTES

In FY 1988 and 1989, 19 mining notices were processed. Mining notices are required when operators plan to disturb less than 5 acres and would use mechanized, earth moving equipment or explosives. One notice that was processed was an extensive drilling operation in the Jarilla Mountains. A Federally-listed endangered cactus at the time required an unusual amount of care and cooperation by the operator.

The total number of mineral material permits for FY 1988 and 1989 was 26. Of these, five were free-use permits to government or nonprofit organizations. Material obtained on a free-use permit generally is used in support of public projects such as road repair, sand for fairground arenas, etc.

Oil and gas activity in the Caballo Resource Area is generally low. During FY 1988, one well being drilled in Otero county was monitored for compliance.

During FY 1989, an oil and gas company ran two seismic lines in Otero County near Tularosa, New Mexico. Four vibrator trucks operating on two drive paths were used and covered approximately 8 miles on public land. Also in FY 1989, the Resource Area was required to start reviewing all parcels of land that would be offered in the quarterly, competitive sales for oil and gas leases. The Resource Area interdisciplinary team reviewed the parcels for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) prior to allowing the parcels to be offered for lease.

RANGELAND AND LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT

CABALLO RESOURCE AREA

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Decisions and Agreements

Through consultation, coordination, and cooperation, 21 rangeland use agreements and 2 grazing decisions were completed in FY 1988 (see Table 1). These agreements and decisions were a product of field and study data analysis, interpretation, and evaluation and consultation with the permittee, New Mexico Department of Agriculture, New Mexico Range Improvement Task Force, New Mexico State Land Office, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Bureau of Reclamation, and BLM. Individual allotment field tours were conducted during the summer of 1988 with the interested parties listed above. Individual allotment problems, goals, and objectives were considered and incorporated into the final agreements and decisions.

The agreements resulted in the recategorization of nine allotments from the "I" to the "M" category, (see Table 1) and one allotment was recategorized from an "M" to an "I" (Allotment #16108). The decision/agreements also resulted in the suspension of 269 animal unit months (AUMs) on three allotments and an increase of 559 AUMs on four other allotments. The adjustments will be phased in over a 5-year period (see Table 2).

Activity Plans

Two grazing activity plans were revised in FY 1988 on allotments: #07080 and #16110. A new activity plan was completed on Allotment #16108 in FY 1989. Grazing activity plans will be prepared as per 1988 agreements.

TABLE 1
DECISIONS AND AGREEMENTS FY 1988

ALLOTMENT NUMBER	PERMITTEE	AGREEMENTS-A DECISIONS-D	INITIAL RMP	CURRENT CATEGORY
			CATEGORY	
16081	Pearson, R.L. & J.R.16081	A	I	M
06141	Apodaca, Secondino	A	I	M
16066	Hubble, Thomas E. and Heidi A.	A	I	M
16027	Chavez, Herbert E.	A	I	M
16050	Chatfield, Harvey	A	I	M
16039	Wolf, R.C.	A	I	M
16113	Wolf, Dale	A	I	M
16055	Greer, G.S	A	I	M
16068	Greer, G.S.	A	I	M
16012	Bourquet, Darwin	A	I	I
06002	Alamosa Land and Cattle	A	I	I
06042	Chavez Ranch Partnership	A	I	I
16048	Gordon, Edna W.	D	I	I
16049	Caballo Grazing Coop. Assoc	A	I	I
16053	Ranch Improvement Co., Inc.	A	I	I
16056	Tucker, Roy	A	I	I
16063	Dayberry, Ralph T.	A	I	I
16064	Smith, Kenneth P.	A	I	I
06083	Walker, Horace	A	I	I
16085	Chapman, Enos J.	A	I	I
16094	Sedillo Community	D	I	I
16026	Chatfield, Harvey & ChildrenI	A	I	I
16054	Greer, G.S.	A	I	I

Source: Caballo Resource Area Grazing Files FY 1988.

TABLE 2
CHANGES IN AUTHORIZED USE

ALLOTMENT NO./NAME	INCREASES (AUMS)
16049 Caballo Grazing Coop Assoc	273
16050 Chatfield, Harvey	49
16064 Smith, Kenneth P.	162
16085 Chapman, Enos J.	75
ALLOTMENT NO./NAME	DECREASES (AUMS)
16048 Gordon, Edna W.	180
16054 Greer, G. S.	29
16063 Dayberry, Ralph T.	60

Rangeland Improvements

Table 3 shows 8100 projects completed in FY 1988 and 1989. Four pipeline projects and one fence project scheduled for FY 1989 were issued materials and are in progress (see Table 3).

Thirteen Section 4 Permits were received and completed in FY 1988. Twelve Section 4 Permits were initiated in FY 1989 with 7 projects completed (see Table 4).

Maintenance inspections were conducted on 115 rangeland improvements in FY 1989.

Monitoring on 63 "I" category allotments was conducted in FY 1989. (See Table 5.)

PLANNED ACTIONS

- Complete AMP revisions on two grazing activity plans and prepare one new plan.
- Three 8100 projects are planned for FY 1990, including two pipelines, and one fence (see Table 6).
- Sixty-four allotments will be monitored. (See Table 5.)

PROGRAM NOTES

The Grazing Authorization and Billing System (GABS) has been incorporated into the administrative function. One minor modification was necessary involving the extension of the allotment number to a five character code. This has been completed.

Twenty-four ranch transfers were completed in FY 1989. Associated with this activity; 273 grazing bills and 41 permit/lease renewals were issued. A total of 18 EAs were prepared for a variety of range related activities. (See Appendix 1.)

RANGELAND AND LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT

MCGREGOR RANGE AREA

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The grazing program on McGregor Range has continued to operate according to management guidance set forth in the 1986 White Sands RMP. Livestock numbers are set with a target not to exceed 50 percent utilization of key forage species.

The average bid for the FY 1989 grazing season was \$5.48. The bid results and total collections for FY 1989 are listed in Tables 7 and 8.

PLANNED ACTIONS

- Sign the White Sands RMP Amendment Record of Decision for McGregor Range in FY 1990.

PROGRAM NOTES

It was determined that the BLM Range Camp on McGregor was on Army fee owned land. Fort Bliss ask BLM to move the camp to a location off of McGregor Range. A site outside of the McGregor boundary has been selected to relocate the camp in FY 1990.

Because of the age of some of the pipelines on the water system there were above average repair and replacement costs in FY 1989. Also, there was a need to replace and repair equipment.

One permanent maintenance worker was hired to help with the maintenance on McGregor. During FY 1989, approximately 10,000 acres of grassland was consumed by fire started by lightning. BLM and Forest Service personnel were involved in the suppression of these fires.

TABLE 3
COOPERATIVELY FUNDED RANGELAND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMPLETED

RANGELAND IMPROVEMENT	FY	ALLOTMENT NUMBER	\$ BLM	\$ COOPERATOR
<u>SIERRA COUNTY</u>				
#4979 Cuchillo Brush	1988	16108	\$35,885	
#4754 Willow Spring Well	1988	16091	\$19,890	\$ 700
#4751 Graham Prescribed Burn	1989	15053		
#4978 West Fence	1989	06080	\$ 3,963	\$ 5,177
#4647 China Canyon P.L.	1989	06080	\$10,976	\$ 2,859
#4749 Huerfano P.L.	1989	06080	\$16,940	\$ 4,519
#4638 Mud Mountain Well	1989	06041	\$17,821	\$ 2,900
#5059 San Andres Brush	1989	06083	\$16,368	\$ 200
#4825 Twin Tanks Well	1989	06085	\$22,924	\$ 1,757
#5025 Bourguet Brush	1989	06012	\$17,732	
#5031 Torres Brush	1989	06102	\$19,641	
#5058 Ash Canyon P.L.	a/	16067		
#4281 Bootlegger P.L.	a/	16067		
<u>OTERO COUNTY</u>				
#4970 Cooper Tank	1988	09031	\$ 3,617	
#4986 Cooper Well #1 b/	1988	09031		
#4939 Pup Canyon Brush	1988	09035	\$64,135	
#4973 Scott Pipeline	1988	09036	\$37,707	\$ 4,950
#4972 Lewis Brush	1988	09036	\$16,115	
#4982 Logan Fence	a/	07030		
#5020 Cooper Pipeline #1	a/	09031		
#5028 Cooper Pipeline #2	a/	09031		

NOTES: a/ Projects awaiting completion-materials issued in FY 1989.

b/ Cooper Well #1 was not successful.

TABLE 4

PERMITTEE FUNDED RANGELAND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

RANGELAND IMPROVEMENTS	ALLOTMENT	COST
<u>SIERRA COUNTY</u>		
<u>FY 1988</u>		
#5029 Hatley Well & Corral	16060	\$12,000.00
#5033 Torres Pipeline & Trough	16102	3,050.00
#5022 North Kelley Fence	16064	880.00
#5049 Apodaca Fence	16004	2,683.00
#5000 Woolf Cattleguard	16113	800.00
<u>FY 1989</u>		
#5964 GYP Hills Tank and Trail	06039	\$3,200.00
#5093 Sand Hills P.L. and Storage	06022	1,940.00
#5087 Quintana Mainline	06050	350.00
#5005 Pipeline Spur	06108	1,250.00
#4940 Red Canyon Well	06067	2,300.00
#4968 West Side P.L.	06019	7,000.00
<u>OTERO COUNTY</u>		
<u>FY 1988</u>		
#5001 Cattle Rubs	07051	\$150.00
#5017 Hunter Well	07030	11,079.00
#5032 George Draw Pipeline	09046	4,320.00
#4993 McLane Draw Pipeline	09051	6,432.00
#5012 Lake Tank Pipeline	09051	5,000.00
#5034 South Pasture Sump	07080	240.00
#5056 Nunley Pipeline	07050	
#5057 Nunley Pipeline	07050	
<u>FY 1989</u>		
#4908 Inman Tank P.L.	09051	\$1,250.00

TABLE 5
MONITORING SCHEDULE a/

ALLOTMENT NUMBER	ALLOTMENT NAME	CURRENT CATEGORY	MONITORING SCHEDULE	
			FY 89	FY 90
<u>Sierra County</u>				
06002	Alamosa Land & Cattle	I	X	X
06020	Bar Cross Ranch	I	X	X
06041	Las Palomas Land & Cattle	I	X	X
06059	W.W. Ranch (formally CNH)	I	X	
06074	Berrenda Creek	I	X	
06080	Flying X	I	X	
06083	W.W. Ranch	I	X	
06120	Twin Peaks	M		X
06124	China Draw	M		X
06129	Chiz Ranch	M		X
06133	Miranda Ranch	M		X
06136	Whiterock Mountain	M		X
06137	W. San Miguel Ranch	M		X
06147	Jornada Lakes	I	X	X
06149	Putnam Draw	I (AMP)	X	
16012	Canada De La Cruz	I	X	X
16013	Macho Creek	M		X
16017	Buckhorn Ranch	I	X	X
16018	Caballo Mt.	I (AMP)	X	
16019	W. Spear Bar Ranch	I	X	X
16021	Engle Ranch	I (AMP)	X	
16022	Lewis Cain Ranch	I	X	X
16023	Apache Canyon	I	X	
16026	Animas Creek	I		X
16033	Turkey Creek	M		X
16037	Pitchfork Ranch	I	X	X
16042	Lost Canyon	I	X	X
16048	Gorden Ranch	I	X	
16049	Caballo Grazing Association	I	X	X
16053	Flat lake	I	X	X
16054	Mitchell Canyon	I	X	X
16055	Priest Tank	M		X
16056	McClenan Ranch	I	X	X
16063	Trujillo Canyon	I	X	X
16064	Kelly Canyon	I	X	X
16067	Mescal Springs	I	X	X
16072	Double Arrow Ranch	I	X	
16079	Copper Flats	I	X	X
16083	W.W. Ranch	I		X
16085	Percha Creek	I	X	X
16089	Rio Grazing Association	I	X	

TABLE 5
MONITORING SCHEDULE a/ (continued)

ALLOTMENT NUMBER	ALLOTMENT NAME	CURRENT CATEGORY	MONITORING SCHEDULE	
			FY 89	FY 90
<u>Sierra County (continued)</u>				
16094	Rogue Romas Canyon	I	X	X
16095	Rancho de Sedil	M		X
16108	Cuchillo South	I b/		X
16109	Chivo Ranch	M		X
16110	Green Canyon	I	X	
16114	FRA Cristobal Ranch	M		X
16115	Turkey Creek	M		X
16121	Macho Spring	M		X
<u>Otero County</u>				
07012	J.W. Danley	I	X	X
07013	Willis Danley	I	X	X
07017	Tom Fairchild	C		X
07022	Salado Creek	I (AMP)	X	
07030	Domingo Springs	I	X	
07031	Laborcita Community	I		X
07037	Orogrande Ranch	I	X	
07039	North Ranch	I	X	
07065	Virden Ranch	I	X	
07066	Charles Walker	I	X	
07067	Bar HW Ranch	M		X
07074	Bar HW Ranch	M		X
07075	Leon Green	M		X
07080	Three Rivers Ranch	I	X	
07114	Osie & Tom Danley	I	X	X
09006	Kincaid Bros	I	X	X
09008	Clifton Dean	I	X	X
09011	Box Canyon	I	X	
09015	Benny Fleming	M		X
09024	V.K. Cattle Co.	M		X
09032	Andy Lewis	I	X	X
09033	Diamond A	I	X	X
09035	Eldo Lewis	I	X	
09036	Howell Lewis	I	X	X
09038	Kitch Ranch	I	X	X
09039	Panther Canyon	I	X	
09040	Richard Lewis Ranch	I	X	X
09042	Ferrel E. Stringer	I	X	X
09045	Don I. Porter	I		X
09046	Indian Draw	I	X	
09049	Runyon/Mershon	I	X	

TABLE 5
MONITORING SCHEDULE a/ (concluded)

ALLOTMENT NUMBER	ALLOTMENT NAME	CURRENT CATEGORY	MONITORING SCHEDULE	
			FY 89	FY 90
09050	Cornucopia Ranch	I	X	
09051	J.B. Runyon	I	X	
09052	Alva Smith	I	X	X
09054	James Gillum	M		X
09056	Wilkerson Well	I	X	
09058	T.A. Tanner	I	X	
09059	Bill Taylor	I	X	X
09060	Kenneth Tidwell	M		X
09062	John V. White	I	X	X
09065	Lee Magby Estate	M		X
09066	Bill Taylor	M		X

NOTES: a/ Sixty-four allotments of the total in the Resource Area.

b/ Change from Initial RMP Category - "M" to "I"

TABLE 6
FY 1990 8100 RANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

ALLOTMENT	PROJECT NO.	PROJECT NAME	UNIT
7080	5103	South Pasture Fence	2.8 Mi
6080	5012	Flying X Cross Fence	7.3 Mi
6041	4823	A-Spear Pipeline	5.5 Mi

TABLE 7
MCGREGOR RANGE 1989 BID RESULTS

UNIT	ACRES	NO OF CATTLE	TOTAL AUMs	BID AUM	TOTAL CONTRACT
<u>1 Year Contracts</u>					
1	31,000	200	1,800	\$4.00	\$ 7,200.00
7	19,000	350	3,150	5.20	16,380.00
8	17,000	125	1,125	6.05	6,806.25
10	12,000	300	2,700	6.60	17,820.00
11	18,000	350	3,150	5.20	16,380.00
12	8,000	150	1,350	6.00	8,100.00

TABLE 8
MCGREGOR RANGE COLLECTIONS FOR 1989

Grazing Unit	1989 Collections	Length of Contract
1	7,200.00	1
2	10,800.00	5 (1992)*
3	11,070.00	5 (1992)*
4	6,540.00	3 (1990)*
5	16,569.00	5 (1992)*
7	16,380.00	1
8	6,806.25	5 (1992)*
9	23,400.00	5 (1992)*
10	17,820.00	1
11	16,380.00	1
12	8,100.00	1
13	17,100.00	5 (1992)*
14	10,833.75	5 (1993)*
15	<u>10,935.25</u>	5 (1993)*
TOTAL	\$179,933.00	

*Year contract expires

WILD BURROS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed a wild burro capture and adoption in FY 1987.

PLANNED ACTIONS

- No further action is required.

WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT AND ENDANGERED SPECIES MANAGEMENT

PLANNED ACTIONS

- The Percha Creek Riparian Habitat Management Plan is in preliminary draft form. The plan is expected to be finalized in FY 1990 after coordination with the grazing allottee, and review by New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and other interested parties.
- Implementation will continue on the Nutt-White Sands herd Unit Monitoring plan as funds become available and priorities allow. To date, 6 water facilities and 6 enclosures have been constructed. Coordination with grazing activities is ongoing.
- Implementation of the McGregor HMP will continue as funds allow. The McGregor RMP amendment will significantly increase the management needs on the Range.
- Initiate inventory for the Otero Mesa HMP as funds and manpower become available. This plan is currently the top priority for new plans in the Caballo Resource Area.

PROGRAM NOTES

A significant amount of time was spent designing and coordinating projects for the 3-year trial Sikes Act Stamp Program. The projects included six inverted umbrella game waterings, and one dirt tank and enclosure for FY 1988, 1989, and 1990.

(The program was accepted by the NM Game Commission and is to be initiated statewide beginning in 1991.)

Under a Cooperative Management Agreement, the Mesilla Valley Audubon Society contributed numerous hours of monitoring birds species occurrence and relative abundance at Lake Holloman. The Resource Area has been attempting to resolve hazardous waste concerns at Lake Holloman. Resolution will involve close coordination with Environmental Protection Agency, New Mexico Environmental Improvement Division, US Fish and Wildlife Service, DOI/OE, and the US Air Force.

Three enclosure projects were completed at McGregor Range with volunteer help from the Otero Bird Hunters Club, Boy Scout Troop 888, and the El Paso Chapter of Quail Unlimited. Also, the NMSU Wildlife Society volunteered time to help construct two wildlife water catchments on McGregor Range.

Wildlife monitoring studies were not conducted for either the Jornada del Muerto Antelope HMP or the McGregor Range Co-Use Area HMP due to funding shortages. A deer and domestic sheep food habits study was initiated on Otero Mesa during FY 1990 to aid in future grazing monitoring and decisions.

Inventory was completed on 106,000 acres for the State Endangered *Coryphantha duncanii* (Duncan's Pincushion Cactus), Federal Category 2 Candidate *Lepidospartum burgessii* (Gypsum scalebroom), Federal Category 2 Candidate *Toumeyia papyracantha* (Grama grass Cactus), Federal Category 2 Candidate *Sophora gypsophila* var. *guadalupensis* (Guadalupe Mescal Bean), and the Federal Endangered *Argemone pleiacantha* ssp. *pinnatisecta* (Sacramento Mountain Prickly Poppy). *C. duncanii* was found to be extremely limited in habitat and population size. Approximately 4,900 plants of *L. burgessii* were found however the habitat endemism within a confined area make this plant quite sensitive. A major range extension for *T. papyracantha* was recorded. The plant was found in gypsum outcrops throughout Otero County. Approximately 5,000 plants of *S. gypsophila* were found while surveying only half of the potential habitat. This species appears to be secure within

the Resource Area. Less than 20 plants of *A. pleiakantha* were found on public land south of Alamogordo. This represents the lower elevation portion of the populations found higher in the mountains. A major habitat extension was found for Federal Endangered *Hedeoma todsenii* (Todsens Pennyroyal) in Otero County. An inventory will be conducted in FY 1990 to look for more populations of *H. todsenii*.

Consultation related to endangered species was conducted with New Mexico Department of Game and Fish for authorization of goats in the San Andres Mountains and construction of planned road modifications on Caballo Mountain with respect to desert bighorn sheep. The goat authorization was denied. The road modifications were made. Consultation was conducted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concerning eagles on the El Paso Electric 345 KV line, the McGregor Range RMP Amendment, and authorization of grazing improvements at Orogrande with regard to the now delisted population of *Echinocereus lloydii*. This hybrid entity was delisted in 1989 during the consultation due to changes in taxonomic classification.

SOILS AND WATER RESOURCES

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Limited off-road vehicle (ORV) designation was placed on 50,365 acres for watershed protection. This was published in the Federal Register on August 3, 1989.

PLANNED ACTIONS

- Complete a watershed activity plan on 7,162 acres for the Moccasin and Otto draw.
- Designate (ORV) 23,236 acres as limited ORV use for the protection of watershed in Wind and Chess Draws.
- Limit vehicle use on 116,000 acres north of State Road 506 on McGregor Range.

VEGETATION

PLANNED ACTIONS

- Designate 3,910 acres as the McGregor Range Black Grama Grassland Area of Critical and Environmental Concern (ACEC). (Designate according to RMPA for McGregor Range.)

CULTURAL RESOURCES

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Alamo Mountain ORV closure plan was completed in FY 1988 for protection of cultural resources.
- Published ORV limitations on 1,260 acres in the Federal Register, August 3, 1989.
- Published ORV closure on 2,380 acres in the Federal Register, August 3, 1989.

PLANNED ACTIONS

- Prepare the Butterfield Trail Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP).
- Develop Jornada Trail Cultural Management Plan inventory and data collection.
- Designate 40 acres at Escondida Pueblo site as closed to ORV use. (Designate according to RMPA for McGregor Range.)

PROGRAM NOTES

In-house cultural clearance report preparation (34) and review of cultural permittee applications (38) were undertaken and emphasized. Making the public aware of BLM's role in cultural resource management was an ongoing activity throughout FY 1988 and 1989 and was accomplished by public speaking engagements at the Dona Ana County Archeological Society's meetings, 7th Day Adventist Church, Dona Ana

Writers Group, the Welcome Wagon Club and at the Aguirre Spring Outdoor Classroom.

A tour of the Three Rivers Petroglyph Recreation Area was conducted for visiting Costa Ricans who were looking at setting up a National Park in Costa Rica along similar lines. Tours for the general public were conducted at the same site and advertised in local papers. The Three Rivers Rock Art Field School was held for the third year. Cleanup work on the petroglyph area and within the village site at Three Rivers was completed with help from the Boy Scouts of Alamogordo. Numerous other sites were visited with members of various Federal, State, and local agencies, and with private citizens and groups. Volunteers were used to patrol known cultural sites within the Resource Area to insure protection of those sites. A meeting was held in Albuquerque to coordinate efforts of various Federal and State agencies with Mike Marshall who is doing a study of the Camino Real in Mexico and New Mexico which will be on land of various ownership. This effort will benefit the Caballo Resource Area directly through implementation of the Jornada del Muerto Trail CRMP. All archeological permittee projects in the Resource Area were field checked and monitored. The cultural section of the McGregor Range MOU was completed.

Consultation was conducted with various Federal and State agencies, including the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office, for the management of cultural resources in New Mexico. Meetings involving these agencies as well as professional archeologists in the private sector were attended to foster better interagency and public relations.

RECREATION

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Designated Sacramento Escarpment ACEC (3,460 acres) in FY 1987.
- Published ORV limitation for Sacramento Escarpment in Federal Register, August 3, 1989.

- Conducted hunt patrol during hunting season in FY 1988 and 1989.
- Constructed scenic pull offs along Caballo Peak road for casual recreational users in FY 1989.
- Completed the Draft ORV Implementation Plan for the Caballo Resource Area during FY 1989 on 1,752,830 acres.

PLANNED ACTIONS

- Install signs at Sacramento Escarpment ACEC for public information.
- Will conduct annual hunt patrol in FY 1990.
- Designate 608,345 acres as limited to designated roads and trails for ORV use. (Designate according to RMPA for McGregor Range.)

PROGRAM NOTES

The Alamogordo Prairie Dawg Motorcycle Club held its yearly desert race during the first part of FY 1987, FY 1988, and FY 1989. There were 102 riders involved in the race in FY 1989.

The recreation area management plan for the Three Rivers Petroglyph Site and Picnic Area continues to be implemented through the year.

The Resource Area provides five guided instructional tours of Aguirre Spring to elementary school children during the year. The outdoor classroom provides instruction on five different topics by Resource Area specialists.

VISUAL RESOURCES

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Published ORV limitations on 80,132 acres in the Federal Register, August 3, 1989.

PLANNED ACTIONS

- Install public information signs in the Cornudas area showing ORV limitations.

PROGRAM NOTES

Visual resources will continue to be evaluated as a part of activity and project planning. This evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed project, the visual sensitivity of the affected area, and the projected impacts of the project. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to ensure compatibility of projects with management objectives for visual resources.

WILDERNESS

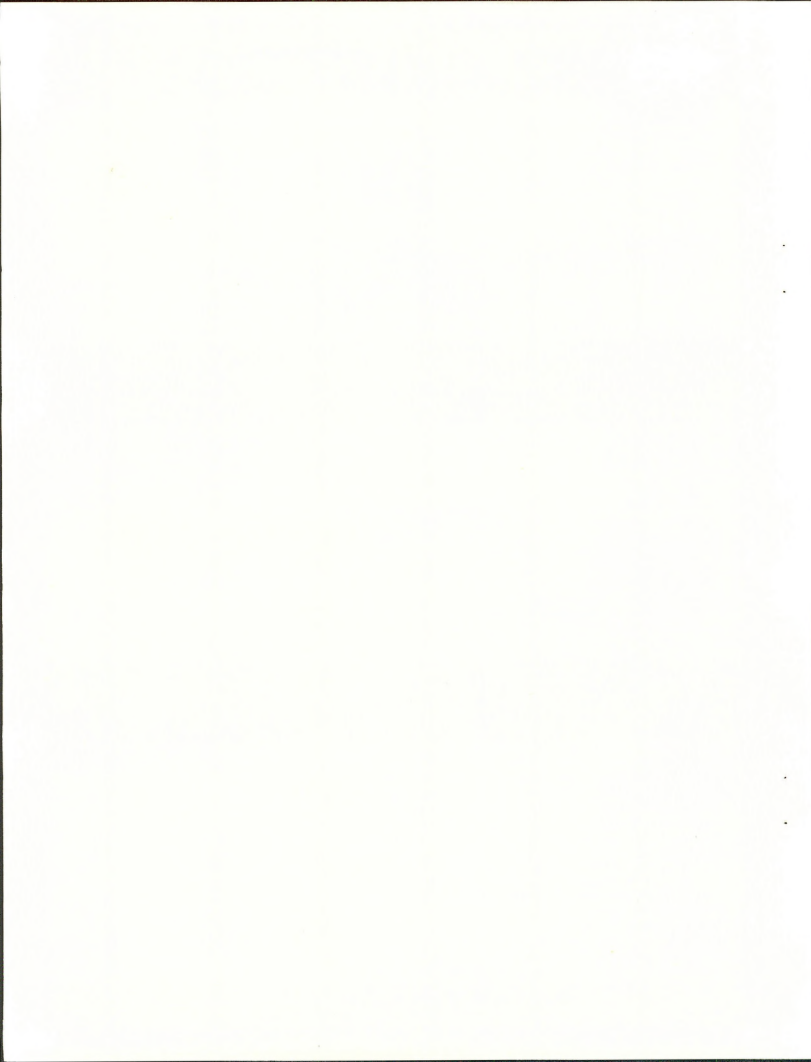
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed Range Improvement Maintenance (RIM) Plans in FY 1989.

PROGRAM NOTES

WSAs will continue to be managed in compliance with the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Land Under Wilderness Review. The WSAs are signed and are monitored on a monthly basis covering 43,000 acres.

APPENDICES



APPENDIX 1

CABALLO RESOURCE AREA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS
FISCAL YEARS 1987, 1988 AND 1989

NUMBER	NAME	DATE COMPLETED
NM-037-87-001	Building Stone Contract, NMSU Alamogordo Branch	10/03/86
NM-037-87-002	San Andres Ranch Allotment No. 6083 Deer Well	11/14/86
NM-037-87-003	WSRA-Wild Burro Gathering Plan	11/17/86
NM-037-87-004	Huerfano Brush Control	11/24/86
NM-037-87-005	Supplemental EA, Salt Flat Reservoir Waterlot	12/09/86
NM-037-87-006	Diamond A Pipeline & Storage Tank Allotment	02/19/87
NM-037-87-009	Exploratory Oil Well, Ysleta Canyon Federal No. 1	01/09/87
NM-037-87-010	Pot Hole Tank Project No. 2116	02/26/87
NM-037-87-011	Dell Telephone Cooperative	01/22/87
NM-037-87-012	Twin Tanks Well	02/11/87
NM-037-87-013	Percha Creek Fence	02/11/87
NM-037-87-014	Percha Creek Brush Control	02/11/87
NM-037-87-015	Adan Torres Nonrenewable Request, Adan Torres' Salt Spring	02/13/87
NM-037-87-016	Amendment NM 061248, U.S. Border Patrol	02/18/87
NM-037-87-017	Prairie Dawg Motorcycle Club Cross Country	02/20/87
NM-037-87-018	Virden Fence Reconstruction	06/22/87
NM-037-87-019	West Fence	07/21/87
NM-037-87-020	Amendment to Navajo Refining Co.	03/05/87
NM-037-87-021	Caballo Communication Site	06/02/87
NM-037-87-022	Cuchillo Brush Control	07/21/87
NM-037-87-023	Red Canyon Windmill, Storage & Trough	03/11/87
NM-037-87-024	Pup Canyon Brush Control	03/11/87
NM-037-87-025	Cooper Tank	07/10/87
NM-037-87-026	Cooper Well No. 1	07/10/87
NM-037-87-027	Cooper Well No. 2	07/10/87
NM-037-87-028	Logan AMP Fence	06/25/87
NM-037-87-029	Westside Pipeline	06/11/87
NM-037-87-030	Gilmore Tank	07/15/87
NM-037-87-031	Mountain Drift Fence	07/20/87
NM-037-87-032	Scott Pipeline	08/26/87
NM-037-87-033	Iron Mountain Well	07/22/87
NM-037-87-036	City of T or C, FLPMA 203 Sale (90 Stat. 2743) Direct	04/07/87
NM-037-87-038	Orogrande Community Pit	08/31/87
NM-037-88-001	Pipeline Spur; Cuchillo South	11/25/87
NM-037-88-002	Lake Tank Pipeline	12/22/87
NM-037-88-003	Flying X Rangeland Activity Plan	02/02/88
NM-037-88-004	Gutierrez Rock Permit	02/02/88
NM-037-88-005	Brunacini Fill Dirt Permit	02/03/88
NM-037-88-006	Hunter Well, Silver Bar Mining	02/19/88
NM-037-88-007	Walker Storage	02/24/88
NM-037-88-008	Silver Bar Mining	02/24/88

APPENDIX 1 (continued)

CABALLO RESOURCE AREA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS
FISCAL YEARS 1987, 1988 and 1989

NUMBER	NAME	DATE COMPLETED
NM-037-88-009	Bitter Spring, Silver Bar Mining	02/24/88
NM-037-88-010	Prairie Dawg Motorcycle Club, Country Enduro	03/09/88
NM-037-88-011	Mountain Bell Telephone ROW	03/09/88
NM-037-88-012	Otero County Free-Use Permit	03/11/88
NM-037-88-013	Increase in Authorized Livestock Buckhorn	03/18/88
NM-037-88-014	North Kelly Fence	03/18/88
NM-037-88-015	Monticello RV Park	04/05/88
NM-037-88-016	Change in Kind of Livestock	04/18/88
NM-037-88-017	Euel Ross Sand and Gravel Contract	05/25/88
NM-037-88-018	McGregor Range, Unit 2	02/03/88
NM-037-88-019	McGregor Range, Unit 1	02/03/88
NM-037-88-020	George Draw Pipeline	06/02/88
NM-037-88-021	Hatley Well & Corral	05/25/88
NM-037-88-022	Sand and Gravel Contract for Alamo Transit Mix; Cottonwood Wash	06/07/88
NM-037-88-023	NM State Highway and Trans. Dept. (ROW)	06/02/88
NM-037-88-024	Nunley Pipelines	07/01/88
NM-037-88-025	Torres Pipeline and Trough	07/12/88
NM-037-88-026	Bourguet Brush Control	07/15/88
NM-037-88-027	McLane Draw Pipeline	07/19/88
NM-037-88-028	South Pasture Sumps	07/26/88
NM-037-88-029	Cooper Pipeline No. 1	08/02/88
NM-037-88-030	Apodaca Fence Tierra Blanca	08/04/88
NM-037-88-031	Bootlegger Pipeline	08/04/88
NM-037-88-032	Ash Canyon Pipeline & Storage	08/04/88
NM-037-88-033	San Andres Brush Control	08/04/88
NM-037-88-034	Mineral Material Extraction on McGregor Range, Otero County Road Department	08/11/88
NM-037-88-035	Yarborough Trail	08/26/88
NM-037-88-036	City of T or C Access ROW	08/30/88
NM-037-88-037	Cooper Pipeline No. 2	09/16/88
NM-037-88-038	Contel ROW Amendment NM NM 44852	09/22/88
NM-037-89-001	Bill Morrow Sand and Gravel Contract	10/03/88
NM-037-89-002	Change in Kind of Livestock Mary Edith Logan Allotment No. 9039	10/04/88
NM-037-89-003	GYP Hills Tank and Trail Rhodes Canyon	11/10/88
NM-037-89-004	Exxon Company, USA, Seismic Line	11/14/88
NM-037-89-005	Conformance/NEPA Compliance Record for Contel Amendment NM NM 44852 Buried Fiber Optic Cable	11/16/88
NM-037-89-006	Change in Kind of Livestock; Cuchillo South Allotment No. 6108	12/01/88
NM-037-89-007	Chatfield Well and Pipeline; South Kelly Canyon	12/06/88
NM-037-89-008	U.S. West Communications	12/06/88
NM-037-89-009	Torres Brush Control Torres Ranch	12/23/88

APPENDIX 1 (concluded)

CABALLO RESOURCE AREA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS
FISCAL YEARS 1987, 1988 and 1989

NUMBER	NAME	DATE COMPLETED
NM-037-89-010	BLM Initiated (Sierra & Otero Counties) Oil and Gas Lease Sale Parcels	12/21/88
NM-037-89-011	Otero County Electric Cooperative Electrical Power Line	02/06/89
NM-037-89-012	Change in Season Wicks Gulch	01/30/89
NM-037-89-013	Upper Dog Canyon Pit No. 1	02/03/89
NM-037-89-014	Number Two Pipeline (5078) and Walker fence (5079); Box Canyon Allotment	02/22/89
NM-037-89-015	Change in Season of Use; Salado Creek Allotment No. 7022	02/22/89
NM-037-89-016	Supplemental Use; Hay Draw Allotment Otero County	02/22/89
NM-037-89-017	Change in Season of Use; Laborcita Communication High Nogal	02/22/89
NM-037-89-018	Cockleburrr Trough Unit 11	03/10/89
NM-037-89-019	Caballo Road Diversion Dike; Rod Hille	03/23/89
NM-037-89-020	1988 Sikes Act Projects; Eight Wildlife Waters	03/23/89
NM-037-89-021	Conformance/NEPA Record Oil & Gas Lease Parcels	03/28/89
NM-037-89-022	Boone Draw Prescribed Burn	03/27/89
NM-037-89-023	Prairie Dawg Motorcycle Club - Race	03/27/89
NM-037-89-024	Village of Tularosa Water Pipeline	04/03/89
NM-037-89-025	Sands Hills Pipeline	04/28/89
NM-037-89-026	Hughes Brothers, Change in Grazing Use Pattern	05/02/89
NM-037-89-027	Caballo Fire Station (R&PP)	05/19/89
NM-037-89-028	Lucky Draw Pipeline - for J. B. Runyan	05/29/89
NM-037-89-029	Sierra County Culverts ROW Amendment	05/29/89
NM-037-89-030	Three Rivers Trailer Hookup and Facilities	05/31/89
NM-037-89-031	Woods Dike, South Kelly Canyon	06/08/89
NM-037-89-032	T or C Flood Protection	07/03/89
NM-037-89-033	South Pasture Pipeline Three Rivers Ranch	06/30/89
NM-037-89-034	West Otto Pasture Pipeline (Cornucopia)	07/24/89
NM-037-89-035	Flying X Cross Fence	08/04/89
NM-037-89-036	House Trap Fence, Pipeline, and Trough, Wilkerson Well	07/31/89
NM-037-89-037	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (water pipeline)	08/03/89
NM-037-89-038	Oil & Gas Lease Parcels for October Sale	08/09/89
NM-037-89-039	Wind Measurement Tower (ASL - WSMR)	08/10/89
NM-037-89-040	Donald G. Taylor Pipeline R/W	07/12/89
NM-037-89-041	Change in Class of Livestock/Supplemental Use	08/29/89

APPENDIX 2
CABALLO RESOURCE AREA ACREAGE a/

<u>LANDHOLDERS/MANAGERS</u>	<u>OTERO COUNTY</u>	<u>SIERRA COUNTY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
BLM Land <u>b/</u>	1,536,882	824,617	2,361,499
Withdrawn Land	944,752	538,036	1,482,788
Other Federal Lands	497,296	467,587	964,883
Indian Land	460,255	0	460,255
State Land	449,908	361,195	811,103
Private Land	452,611	508,725	961,336
Total Federal <u>c/</u>	2,978,930	1,830,240	4,809,170
Total Acreage <u>d/</u>	4,341,704	2,700,160	7,041,864

SOURCES: Statistical Abstracts, 1979-1980
The Bureau of Land Management Factbook, 1982.
Master Title Plats

NOTES: a/Inland water areas are included in ownerships.
b/Includes that portion of withdrawn public land on McGregor Range managed by BLM; approximately 608,385 acres.
c/Includes BLM, withdrawn, and other Federal lands not listed (such as Forest Service and National Park Service).
d/Includes total Federal, Indian, State and private lands.